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CASE 4-31268A



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF
GUITARD ET AL.
APPLICATION NO: 09/731,139
FILED: DECEMBER 6, 2000
FOR: USE OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit: 1614
Examiner: Weddington, K.

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of January 29, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on April 29, 2002. A two-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$400 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory D. Ferraro
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 36,134
Phone No. (908) 522-6923

Novartis Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
564 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901-1027

Date: July 1, 2002